

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application as amended is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 12, 17, and 19 have been amended. Claims 2, 14, and 18 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3-13, 15-17, and 19 are currently pending.

The drawings have been objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference signs not mentioned in the description: 21, 31, 32, and 50. The Office Action indicates that a proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required. Applicant has amended the specification to change reference sign 21 to reference sign 26, and to include a reference to reference signs 31, 32, and 50. Support for the amendments made to the specification can be found in at least Figures 4 and 6-7 of the application. The abstract of the specification has been objected to because of undue length. Applicant has submitted an amended abstract and respectfully submits that the abstract as amended is in compliance with the requirements of MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No 4,201,215 to Crossett et al. ("Crossett"). Claims 1-13, 15, 16, 17, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,051,007 to Hogendijk et al. ("Hogendijk ") in view of Crossett. Claims 1, 4-10, and 12 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-8 and 10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,540,769 in view of Hogendijk.

Claims 14 and 18 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Independent claims 1, 12, 17, and 19 have been amended to include the subject matter indicated by the Examiner as allowable. In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 3-13, 15-17, and 19 distinguish over the art of record.

In view of the above amendments, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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